

APPROVED

Minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting

May 9, 2013 Regular Meeting

The May 9, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board was convened at 7:00pm in the Social Room of the Recreation Center with Gerry Palau, Board Chair presiding.

Roll Call

Members present included at roll call: Sherith Colverson, Bridgette Ellis, Gerry Palau, Laurel Patrick, Dan Robbins, Alan Tatum and Cathy Toth. Absent were Frank Chmielewicz and Allen Eubanks.

Approval of the April 11, 2013 Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes for April 11, 2013 was made by Cathy Toth and seconded by Alan Tatum. The minutes were approved by a 7-0 vote.

Appearance and Citizen Comments

Doug Colclasure appeared before the Board to express his disappointment in the Board's failure to approve his motion (provided via email and presented by Dan Robbins on Doug's behalf) at the April meeting regarding the 69kv line for Horizon Center. Charlie Hensley spoke as a member of TCWP and not as a City Council member regarding DOE's approval for the initial installation of the 69kv line and the fact that their environmental assessment was based on a winter survey of the area. He expressed hope that the Board would take on an advocacy role for greenways and trails. He outlined examples where government action was halted by the community. He stated that TCWP and AFORR were considering legal action against DOE regarding the Environmental Impact Study done on the 69kv line. Ann Garcia Garland agreed with Charlie's assessment of the issues surrounding the proposed line.

Since the meeting agenda contained an item under New Business entitled "Recreational Impacts associated with City development activities" Chairman Palau moved the item up in the agenda to allow discussion at this time. Gerry distributed a draft concept memo (from the Board to the City Manager) that was a follow up to the discussions from the April Board meeting as an effort to develop consensus among the Board members.

Sherith Colverson questioned the purpose of the memo and "what is our question?" Gerry responded by saying it was intended to have City Staff take into account the Recreational Values and impact on quality of life when evaluating city project options. The quality of the recreational experience is important and should be considered. Laurel Patrick expressed support for the memo and the effort to find common ground.

Bridgette Ellis discussed the difference between recreational values and recreational impact. The recreational experience of walking on the greenway near Horizon Center will remain whether the power line is installed or not. Although the experience may be reduced, it will not be taken away by the construction of the power. Recreational values should be one of many issues to be considered when construction is planned. What are the options and what is the cost difference in order to protect the recreational values.

Cathy Toth shared her concern that the Board should take a position on each project. Take a strong advocacy role in what happens with all recreational projects. Bridgette Ellis cautioned the Board to avoid taking positions on issues outside of the Board's charter. Quality of Life issues are bigger than just recreation. Dan Robbins shared his opinion that the Board's job was to advocate for recreation and greenways. Bridgette commented on the competing uses on a DOE patrol road. Its primary role was security, not a greenway. Using it as a greenway is one of several concurrent activities. DOE still owns the road. If we impose too many restrictions on something we do not own, the owners may be reluctant to give us access to other areas if a single purpose is pushed. Quality is in the eye of the beholder. A greenway with a power line is still better than no greenway at all. Alan Tatum expressed support for the memo.

Sherith made a motion to approve the memo and Cathy provided the second. Bridgette Ellis suggested an amendment that included a statement regarding protecting recreational value where a small additional cost was a consideration. Doug Colclasure suggested the Board should evaluate other routing options as part of the discussion. The City should consider putting the power line underground for aesthetic reasons.

Anne Garcia Garland questioned the IDB's action/decisions regarding the development plan for Horizon Center. Charlie Hensley questioned the initial development plan that suggested the park be developed as a business park rather than an industrial park requiring additional electrical capacity.

The motion to approve the memo was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Committee Reports

Dog Park Committee- Bridgette Ellis

The Dog Park ordinance could go to City Council in late May or June. The Dog Park committee plans to have a booth at the Secret City Festival and hopes to start developing a user group to oversee the park. The committee also has a plan to put paw prints on fire hydrants placed in the park.

Bike/Ped Committee- Sherith Colverson

Since there is no funding for Rails to Trails or other Greenway projects, the Board discussed putting future committee actions on hold. Sherith mentioned " Bike to Work Day" was coming in May. Chairman Palau asked about the Bike and Ped Committee interest in promoting Bike safety education and community events. The Committee was interested in generating ideas and sponsoring activities. Sherith agreed to review the existing committee charter and evaluate revisions in light of the recent events.

Community Funding Opportunities Committee – Laurel Patrick

Laurel reported that she has been researching tax deductible contributions and checking with how other Cities handle these type donations. She is looking for committee members and has scheduled a meeting for June 6th in the Club Room at 6pm.

Long-term Strategy/Needs Assessment Committee - Gerry Palau

With the Board's concurrence, Gerry Palau turned over the Chairmanship for the committee to Alan Tatum. The Committee will begin meeting at 5:45pm in the Social Room prior to the monthly Board meeting and start

looking at Benchmarking with other Cities. The Committee will start developing a 5/10/20 year plan for Recreation in Oak Ridge.

Waterfront Redevelopment Master Planning Committee – Gerry Palau

With the Board's concurrence, Gerry Palau assumed Chairmanship for the Waterfront Redevelopment Master Planning Committee. Gerry distributed a draft mission statement and scope for Board review (see attached). The intent is for the committee plan to assemble a list of ideas, prepare cost estimates and development schedule, look for redevelopment opportunities and establish priorities. After the information has been collected, the committee plans to develop a list of action items and possible funding options. The MBA class recommendations and the approved Waterfront Plan will also be used to guide the path forward. Laurel suggested that a committee deliverable be a 'Top 3 Projects' priority list to help focus budget and technical planning. Dan offered to participate on the committee.

Bridgette Ellis made a motion to approve the Committee charge and Dan Robbins seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion by a 7-0 vote.

Dan Robbins reported on the Electronic Reader Signs. The draft ordinance presented to the Planning Commission by City staff includes a provision that restricts placement reader board signs within 100 feet of a park. Planning Commission has sent the draft ordinance back to staff for more review. A planning Commission work session was planned for May 16th at 5:30.

Work Plan Deliverables

Gerry Palau will update the Work Plan deliverables as committee activity begins.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Discussion of MBA Student report and Conclusions

City Staff is evaluating the MBA class Final report and is developing an implementation plan. Several short term opportunities requiring minimal funding have been identified. The Board was encouraged to review the report and look for early short term successes. Consistent signage along greenways and park areas is already an early focus.

Director's Report

Josh Collins distributed a list of spring and summer activities sponsored by the Department. Entertainment info on the Secret City Festival was also distributed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.



Recreation & Parks Advisory Board

Waterfront Redevelopment Planning Committee

Mission Statement

Assist staff in evaluation of planning options and relative priorities for redevelopment of the City waterfront area by developing sufficient detail related to potential projects so as to allow better long-term planning and budgeting.

Scope & Deliverables

- Develop a comprehensive list of the potential projects that could be part of waterfront redevelopment. For each project:
 - Develop a summary scope description;
 - Identify the benefits each project would yield/contribute to the waterfront and to the City;
 - Develop a high-level, planning cost estimate range;
 - Develop a high level 'block' schedule that would identify approximate durations to complete detailed planning, engineering/design, and construction;
 - Identify prerequisites and significant constraints to executing the project;
 - Identify risks to City associated with doing, or not doing the project.
- Conduct a public engagement opportunity to solicit feedback on the list of projects, relative cost magnitudes, and priorities for long-term (CIP) budget planning.
- Consolidate the information in a package suitable for future updating over time.

Initial Committee Members

- Gerry Palau
- Allen Eubanks
-

Recreation and Parks Department Spring/Summer

Youth Advisory Board

Graduation Celebration	Thursday, May 30 th , 10pm-6am, Civic Center
YAB Application Deadline	Saturday, June 1 st
YAB 2013-2014	New Board begins August 1 st

Athletics

Co-Ed Flag Football Tournament	Saturday, May 18 th , 8am-5pm, at RMS
Spring/Summer Softball Season (Men's, Co-ed, Women's)	April 8 – Mid-July
Co-ed Flag Football Tournament	Saturday, May 18
Fall Co-ed Kickball Season	August – October
Fall Softball Season: Men's & Co-ed	August – October
Fall Co-ed Volleyball Organizational Mtg.	August 20
AYSO 3 v 3 Tournament	Saturday, May 18 (LaSalle)
Wildcat Softball Showcase	Saturday, May 25 (Yearwood)
SCOR/LMU Soccer Camp	June 3 – 7 (Katie Hunter)
Battle in the South Baseball Tournament	June 6 – 9 (Baseball Complex)
AYSO Soccer Camp	June 6 – 10 (Energy Solutions)
SCF Youth Tennis	June 21 & 22 (ORHS Tennis Cts.)
Civic Center	
Summer Camp	June 10 - August 2
Scarboro Community Center	
Summer Day Camp	June 10 - August 2

Senior Breakfast	May 17 – 8:30am
Senior Bingo	May 23 – 6pm
Senior Bingo	June 27 – 6pm
Senior Bingo	July 25 – 6pm

Senior Programs

Volunteer Meet and Greet	May 21 4 – 6pm
Taxi Coupon Recertification	June 27 th /28 th
Senior Center Picnic	July 19 - 11:30 -1p.m.
8-Ball Tournament	August 16

Aquatics

Outdoor Pool Opens (Abbreviated Schedule)	May 25,26,27, June 1 and 2 Noon to 6pm
	Full Time June 5

New handicap lift this summer to comply with amended ADA Regs

Indoor Pool Swim lessons available throughout the day (exception 4-5:30pm)

Secret City Festival	June 21-22
----------------------	------------

Concert Tickets discounted now for Event Sponsors

Sponsors have committed \$111,500 in cash and additional in-kind contributions

Biggest notable change no reenactment – Salute to Soldiers

Not on Lavender Festival weekend

Parks

Pavilion: Grading work is substantially complete, lighting and picnic bench install is complete. Plaque installation and sidewalk connecting pavilion to water fountain remain to be completed.

Dog Park: Public Works has installed the water fountain infrastructure and will connect it to existing water lines in the next few weeks. Construction documents and specifications for the first contract (sidewalks and other concrete, sign at Oak Ridge Turnpike and entry structure) are nearly complete and will be put out to bid as soon as the bid documents are complete. The fence contract will follow.

